

Amendment to the Specification:

Please amend paragraphs 1 and 2 on page 1 lines 2 through 25 as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/786, 533 filed on January 21, 1997, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/652,842, filed on May 23, 1996, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/568,357 filed on Dec. 6, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/551,149 filed on Oct. 31, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/447,398 filed on May 23, 1995, now U.S. patent No. 6,761,894, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/289,667 filed on Aug. 12, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent-application Ser. No. 08/156,358 filed on Nov. 23, 1993, now U.S. patent No. 6,752,993, all incorporated herein by reference.

This application is also a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/545,926, filed on Oct. 20, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/447,398 filed on May 23, 1995, now U.S. patent No. 6,761,894, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/289,667 filed on Aug. 12, 1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/156,358 filed on Nov. 23, 1993, now U.S. patent No. 6,752,993, all incorporated herein by reference

Please insert on page 28 after line 15:

Fig. 25 depicts the survival of animals immunized with proteins in the presence of adjuvant only and in the presence of adjuvant and IL-12.

Please amend page 35, line 18 as follows:

Fig. 1[[A]]a, col. 2.

Please amend page 45, lines 15-33 as follows:

doublet shown in Fig. 1[[D]]d, col. 2.

As illustrated in the SDS-PAGE profile of Fig. 1, the principal or majorly abundant extracellular proteins of *M. tuberculosis* were purified to homogeneity through the use of the protocols detailed in Examples 2A-2N above. More particularly, Fig. 1 illustrates four exemplary 12.5% acrylamide gels developed using SDS-PAGE and labeled 1[[A]]a, 1[[B]]b, 1[[C]]c, and 1[[D]]d. The standard in lane 1 of gels 1[[A]]a-1[[C]]c has proteins with molecular weights of 66, 45, 36, 29, 24, 20, and 14 KD. In gel 1[[D]]d the standard in lane 1 contains proteins with molecular weights of 68, 45, 31, 29, 20, and 14 KD. The lanes containing the respective purified extracellular products show essentially one band at the reported molecular weight of the individual protein. It should be noted that in gel 1[[D]]d the 12 KD protein runs as a doublet visible in lane 2. Sequence analysis shows that the lower 12 KD (or 12B KD band) is equivalent to the upper 12 KD (or 12A KD) band except that it lacks the first 3 N-terminal amino acids.

Please amend page 75, lines 4-29 as follows:

To assess the cell-mediated component of a human immune response to the exemplary 71 KD majorly abundant protein, the proliferation of peripheral blood lymphocytes from PPD-positive and PPD-negative individuals to the protein were studied in the standard lymphocyte proliferation assay as reported in Example 4 above. A positive PPD, or tuberculin, response is well known in the art as being indicative of previous exposure to *M. tuberculosis*. The proliferative response and corresponding incorporation of [³H]thymidine were measured at two and four days. Data for these studies is shown in Figs. 8[[A]]a and 8[[B]]b. Fig. 8[[A]]a shows the response to various levels of 71 KD after two days while Fig. 8[[B]]b shows the same responses at four days.

As illustrated in Figs. 8[[A]]a and 8[[B]]b, the mean peak stimulation index of PPD-positive individuals was twofold higher to the 71 KD protein and threefold higher to PPD than that of PPD negative individuals. Among PPD-positive individuals, there was a linear correlation between the peak stimulation indices to the exemplary 71 KD protein and to PPD demonstrating that a strong cell-mediated response is stimulated by the

most prominent or majorly abundant extracellular products of *M. tuberculosis* in humans previously exposed to *M. tuberculosis*. This data corresponds to the reactivity profile seen in guinea pigs and confirms the applicability of the guinea pig model to other mammals subject to infection.

Please amend page 87, line 11 to page 88, line 1 as follows:

against death after challenge. At 4 weeks ~~afte^F^PB-Zr~~ after challenge, 2 of 6 sham-immunized animals (33%) died

Attached after page 15 of this paper are replacement sheets for pages 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22 and 24 of the specification to correct improper handwritten underlining.